

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a monoester comprising the step of [:::] reacting at least one diol with at least one carboxylic acid in a biphasic solvent system comprising water and at least one aprotic solvent, wherein the carboxylic acid has a water solubility that allows esterification to occur so as to form a resulting monoester having a greater solubility in the at least one aprotic solvent than in water, said reaction step process being conducted as a batch process ~~without a continuous extraction step~~.
2. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said diol is a diprimary or disecundary diol.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said diol is selected from the group consisting of 1,8-octanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, 1,10-decanediol, 1,11-undecanediol, 1,4-cyclohexanediol, and mixtures thereof.
5. (Original) The process of claim 4 wherein said diol is selected from the group consisting of 1,8-octanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, 1,11-undecanediol, and mixtures thereof.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said diol is symmetric.
8. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said diol has less than about 14 carbon atoms.
9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein said carboxylic acid has a solubility in water of at least 50% by weight at 20°C.

11. (Original) The process of claim 10 wherein said carboxylic acid has a solubility in water of about 100% by weight at 20°C.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of formic acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, *n*-butyric acid, pyruvic acid, propionic acid, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of formic acid, acetic acid, and mixtures thereof.

15. (Original) The process of claim 14 wherein said carboxylic acid is acetic acid and the resulting monoester is a monoacetate.

16. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

- (a) oxidizing the remaining hydroxyl group of said monoacetate to form an aldehyde, and
- (b) reacting said aldehyde with an alkylidene phosphorane to form an olefinic monoacetate.

17. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said aprotic solvent has a polarity index between about 1.5 and about 3.5.

18-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of toluene, benzene, chlorobenzene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, trifluorotoluene, dichlorobenzene, methyl *tert*-butyl ether (MTBE), diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, dibutyl ether, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein said solvent is an aromatic solvent.

22. (Original) The process of claim 21 wherein said solvent is toluene.

23. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1 wherein said diol and said carboxylic acid are reacted in the presence of an acid catalyst selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, hydroiodic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, and mixtures thereof.

24. (Original) The process of claim 23 wherein said catalyst is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, and mixtures thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1 wherein the process results in a reaction product comprising at least 73.0 wt% of the resulting monoester.

26. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 16 further comprising:

forming an insect mating disruption composition-product comprising the olefinic monoacetate.

27. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a monoester comprising the steps of:

providing a reaction mixture comprising at least one aprotic solvent and at least one diol;

adding at least one carboxylic acid and water to the reaction mixture to form a biphasic solvent system, wherein the at least one carboxylic acid has a water solubility that

enables esterification to occur within the water so as to result in a monoester having a greater solubility in the at least one aprotic solvent than in the water;

separating the water from the at least one aprotic solvent; and

removing the at least one aprotic solvent to yield the monoester,

wherein the process is a batch process ~~does not comprise a continuous extraction step~~.

28. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27 wherein the at least one diol is selected from the group consisting of 1,8-octanediol, 1,9-nonanediol, 1,10-decanediol, 1,11-undecanediol, 1,4-cyclohexanediol, and mixtures thereof; and the at least one carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of formic acid, acetic acid, and mixtures thereof.

29. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 27 further comprising:

heating the reaction mixture to a reflux temperature of from about 30°C to about 120°C.

30. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a monoester comprising the steps of:

forming a reaction mixture in a reaction vessel, wherein the reaction mixture comprises at least one diol and at least one carboxylic acid in a biphasic solvent system comprising water and at least one aprotic solvent, the at least one carboxylic acid having a solubility in water of at least 20% by weight at 20°C;

heating the reaction mixture to a reflux temperature within the reaction vessel so as to form a monoester having a greater solubility in the at least one aprotic solvent than in the water;

separating the water from the at least one aprotic solvent containing the monoester; and

removing the at least one aprotic solvent to yield the monoester,

wherein the process is a batch process ~~does not comprise a continuous extraction step~~.